

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

Dr. E. W. Goodall, Medical Superintendent of the Eastern Hospital, Homerton, under the Metropolitan Asylums Board, has been appointed Medical Superintendent of the North Western Hospital, Lawn Road, Hampstead, in the Asylums Board Service, in succession to Dr. McCombie, who is retiring next month.

Dr. Goodall is well known to nurses through the interest he takes in their professional organisation as Hon. Medical Secretary of the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses, and a large circle of his friends in the nursing world, as well as those with whom he is more closely associated under the Metropolitan Asylums Board will wish him success and happiness in his new sphere of work.

QUEEN VICTORIA JUBILEE INSTITUTE.**TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENTS.**

Miss Mary Crosse is appointed to Bromley; Miss Mary A. Yeats, to Sunderland; Miss Florence Scott, to Biddulph.

RESIGNATION.

Miss Laura Baker, the capable Sister-in-Charge of the Howard de Walden Nurses' Home and Club, Langham Street, W., has resigned this position, to the general regret of the members. With Miss Emily Cawte she will receive paying guests at 114, Marine Parade, Brighton (right on the front), and no doubt many of her wide circle of friends in the nursing world will find their way there.

NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

On Friday evening, February 11th, an interesting lecture on Heredity was given to the Richmond Branch of the N.U.T.N. at the Royal Military Hospital by Captain Marett Tims, R.A.M.C.

Captain Tims began by explaining the theories of Mendel, one of the early students of heredity, showing by illustrations from plant and animal life how types were reproduced with mathematical regularity.

In the higher forms of life tendencies also recur, physical peculiarities and remarkable brain power reappearing in successive generations. On the other hand, feeble-minded parents are responsible for criminals, drunkards, lunatics, and all kinds of decadents.

Charts were shown of the career of some of these latter subjects, showing the enormous number of officials and institutions which have to be maintained to watch over and protect the public from these irresponsible and dangerous persons. It is therefore of the utmost importance to the State that the feeble-minded should be segregated in farm colonies to live out their lives in comparative comfort but harmless to their fellow creatures, and should not be allowed to leave behind them progeny of the undesirable type outnumbering the worthy classes of the community.

After the War the problem will become even more acute, and it behoves us more than ever to secure that the unfit shall not be the future parents of our race.

NURSING ECHOES.

Miss Sophy J. Wood, whose portrait we publish on page 168, is one of the newly elected members of the Matrons' Council, and is County Nursing Superintendent for Somerset under the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute, as well as Inspector of Midwives. Miss Wood was trained at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, and received her training as a Queen's Nurse in connection with the Kensington District Nursing Association, and in midwifery at the Victoria Home, Cheltenham. She has held various posts under the Q.V.J.I., and in January, 1913, was appointed to her present position. At the beginning of the present year she was appointed Supervisor of Infant Visitors (including Health Visitors) under the County Council for Somerset. She is also a lecturer and examiner for the British Red Cross Society.

Major McAdam Eccles had some very interesting things to say in his Lecture to the Abernethian Society on "The Little Things of Medicine and Surgery." Speaking of "The Nurse," he said:—

"I can remember something of the earlier days of real nursing in this Hospital—a hospital which has been the pioneer in the progress of the education of the trained nurse. . . .

The modern nurse is a member of a profession but little less important in the treatment of the sick than our own.

I wonder whether I shall carry the nursing staff with me if I say that the daily round of the life of a nurse is made up of 'little things,' often tedious to her, but of the greatest moment to her patient.

The ideal nurse is the one who, while she can be trusted in the big things of the sick room, can carry out the details properly and without fussing. Nothing worries a patient so much as a fussy and withal incompetent nurse. Of course, I have not met one of these for many a year, at or from St. Bartholomew's! Not so very long ago a short article appeared in one of our daily papers congratulating the recipient of the gold medal given by the Clothworkers' Company to the 'best' nurse at this Hospital. She had just completed the three years' training, and had—the paper said—emerged triumphant from examination tests.

Her remarks about this little matter were good. 'There is an art in arranging a tray. The food needs to be set out with care and with regard to the patient's whims.'

I remember once seeing a tray quite well pre-

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)